HOW TO IDENTIFY FOREST CRIME

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FROM THE FORESTS TO THE STORES

It is important to track timber along the entire timber supply chain and to ensure compliance with the laws at each stage.

STAGE 1
HARVEST
- Concession area
- Protected area

STAGE 2
TRANSPORTATION TO SAWMILLS
- Via roads on trucks (obvious and visible cargo)
- Via waterways by boats (obvious and visible cargo)
- Via waterways by floating timber

STAGE 3
PROCESSING
- Sawmills
- Pulp mills (e.g. wood chips)
- Paper mills
TRANSPORTATION TO STORES

- Via national and international road networks on trucks (packed cargo)
- Via national and international waterways by boats (packed cargo)

CONSUMPTION

- National markets
- International markets
A worker checking identity tags on logged trees in Berau, East Kalimantan, Indonesia. Following an agreement signed with the European Union in September 2013, Jakarta is rolling out a system under which companies holding government-issued permits are given a certificate to prove their wood is legally harvested.

**IDENTIFY ILLEGAL HARVESTING**

- No logging permit
- Invalid logging permit (expired or fake permit)
- Invalid permit for harvest volume, species and types of transportation
- Harvest in unauthorized sites
Illegal loggers load the wood they cut from a mangrove forest.

Agarwood, *Aquilaria* spp. and *Gyrinops* spp., are in the CITES list of endangered species.

**IDENTIFY ILLEGAL HARVESTING**

- Cutting high-value endangered species listed in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)
- Illegal logs of protected species mixed in supply for pulp industry
- Invalid documents (including the CITES permit)
Burning rainforest to make space for palm oil plantations in Sumatra in Indonesia.
A forest has been replaced by a palm oil plantation in Central Kalimantan in Indonesia.

**DETECT ILLEGAL LOGGING**

- Forests cleared for cash crops with invalid permits
- Forests in national parks or illegal concession areas cleared for agriculture
BURNING FOREST

Clearing protected areas through logging and burning is illegal. Burning peatland forests is particularly devastating because these are very dense forests and fires can burn for several months.
This peatland area near Teluk Meranti village in Pelalawan in Indonesia is cleared for palm oil plantation.
CHARCOAL AND FIREWOOD

A villager living near Mount Kelud pushes his bicycle packed with firewood in Candisewu village in East Java.

A worker loads mangrove wood into a kiln at Kampung Dapur Arang in Malaysia’s northern state of Perak.

DETECT ILLEGAL DEFORESTATION

- Charcoal kilns in national parks
- Firewood collected in protected forest
Big trucks are used to transport logs from a rainforest to a sawmill in Malaysia.

Logs from the Ripaman forest, home to orangutans and proboscis monkeys, are transported on the Sekonyer River in central Kalimantan.

⚠️ DETECT ILLEGAL LOGS ON TRANSPORT ROUTES

- No permit for transportation
- Reusing the same permit
- Passing checkpoints without permit
Over the last decade dozens of pulp and paper companies have been established in Indonesia.

**PROCESSING**

Many big and small saw, pulp and paper mills may have illegally logged high-density species in storage.

**IDENTIFY ILLEGAL LOGS**

- Oversized timber in sawmills or other processing spots
- Timber of protected species (probably high-density timber) in sawmills or other processing spots
- Overstock accumulation in stocks in sawmills or other processing spots
- Failure to make a dent with a sharp object into a piece of timber. If it is high density timber, it is possibly old growth rainforest timber
Timber is loaded and unloaded from Bugis Schooners in Jakarta’s Sundra Kelapa dock. The schooners act as the principal means of cargo transportation in the Indonesian Archipelago.

Teak logs loaded at Thilawa port in Myanmar.

**DETECT ILLEGAL TRANSPORTATION**

- Underreported transportation of timber by vessels down rivers and/or by trucks on roads
WILDLIFE HUNTING AND PET TRADE

Illegal hunting for bushmeat and pet trade, are protected both nationally and internationally.

Tiger confiscated from a small zoo in a luxury villa in Bogor, Indonesia.

Sumatra tigers are critically endangered due to poaching and illegal trade.
Native to Indonesia and Malaysia, the orangutans are critically endangered due to poaching and illegal trade.

DETECT ILLEGAL WILDLIFE POACHING

- Hunting endangered species listed in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)
- Hunting animals protected by national laws
- Illegal trade in animals
1. Secure the outer crime scene from contamination by you, your colleagues or other bystanders. Park any vehicle at least 100 m away. Do not move anything.

2. Take photographs.

3. Prepare a sketch of the crime scene showing the precise location and relationship between objects and evidence.

4. Record any footprints, footwear or incriminating signs revealing what happened OR that link suspects to the crime scene.

5. Collect or seize any item you consider relevant to the crime scene, preferably using a pencil, glove or stick. Place items in separate bags or folded sheets of paper.

6. Prepare a short report or write down keywords while at the site including anything of relevance that can be counted, e.g. tracks, seized items (weapons, ammo, cutting items, wildlife parts, bags of coal or logs), and people present – along with the date, time, estimated time passed since the criminal action, time you spent at crime scene, location description and/or coordinates. Ensure that the information collected is sufficient for locating the site at a later time.

PROSECUTION UPON ARREST OF A SUSPECT
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